

DRAFT

by JWP? re. Commonwealth
C224568
Prime Meetings 1948

When asked for his comment on the outcome of the Meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers, Mr. Mackenzie King expressed anew his regret that circumstances had prevented him from participating actively in the meetings.

Mr. King said that he had had opportunities for private conversation with most of the Prime Ministers and was looking forward to meeting all of them before his departure from London. These conversations, together with daily contacts with the Canadian High Commissioner, Mr. Norman Robertson, and later with Mr. St.-Laurent after the latter's arrival from Canada, had enabled Mr. King to keep in close touch with the proceedings of the meetings.

Mr. King said, however, that he preferred not to make any comment beyond saying that there had been no thought of attempting to alter the character of the Commonwealth as a group of like-minded and freely associated nations in no way exclusive in character but serving at once as a model of free co-operation and